

HONORING SPENCER SMITH

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Spencer Smith of Kansas City, Missouri. Spencer is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Spencer has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Spencer has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Spencer Smith for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND
REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, by definition, stimulus is to be immediate, focused, and targeted. This "stimulus bill" is no stimulus—it's spending.

The House version was packed with pork for projects like: \$3 billion for the Prevention and Wellness Fund for immunizations, including \$335 million for STD prevention programs; \$800 million to make capital grants to Amtrak; and \$600 million for GSA to replace a portion of federal motor vehicles with a plug-in.

The Senate Version added: \$400 million for a Social Services Block Grant; \$125 million for DC sewers; \$500 million for NASA exploration activities; \$300 million for FBI Construction; \$2 billion for FutureGen; \$100 million for National School lunch program equipment assistance; and \$70 million for energy efficient visitor centers.

Americans know that not all spending is stimulus. If it can't produce a job THIS YEAR—let's not spend it!

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT
SANCHEZ**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Ms. SOLIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Robert Sanchez, a guidance counselor formerly at La Puente High School in California.

While I was a high school student at La Puente I was fortunate enough to have Mr. Sanchez as my college guidance counselor. Each day he worked tirelessly to promote education in our school and in our community.

During my senior year in high school, Mr. Sanchez took a vested interest in my education. He personally took time to explain the college application process to me and my family and helped show me how I could go to college.

At the time no one else in my family had attended college. College seemed to be an unattainable goal, and the college application process was both expensive and daunting. If not for Mr. Sanchez's counseling and guidance, I do not know that I would have been able to go on to pursue a college education.

For youths across our nation, high school teachers and counselors are a vital part of their education with the power to influence a student's decision to pursue higher education or not. I stand here today to honor those teachers and guidance counselors, like Robert Sanchez, who work each day in our schools, with little recognition or accolades, to place the dreams of knowledge and a better future back into the hands of our children.

Robert Sanchez has dedicated his life to motivating and educating countless youths in Los Angeles County and San Diego, California. Thank you, Mr. Sanchez, for never giving up on our children.

HONORING BENJAMIN VLEISIDES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Benjamin Vleisides of Parkville, Missouri. Benjamin is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Benjamin has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Benjamin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Benjamin Vleisides for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING BET NETWORK'S TV
SERIES, "HARLEM HEIGHTS"**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Randolph D. Sturup and Kurt Williamson for creating BET Network's latest television series, "Harlem Heights," premiering on March 2, 2009 at my beloved Harlem's grandest stage, the Apollo Theatre.

Harlem Heights is a half-hour reality docudrama highlighting the ups and downs of seven young African-American professionals struggling to balance hectic work schedules with complicated social lives. It offers a window into the fascinating world of New York's

young, Black and fabulous crowd. Picking up where college leaves off, the show features a diverse cast of twenty-somethings with different backgrounds and personalities but common goals: making the post college leap into adulthood and finding love and success in the big city on their own terms.

The concept of Harlem Heights evolved from the creator's deep fascination with Harlem and the Harlem Renaissance. Some of our most prolific leaders from the past in the world of literature and music such as Langston Hughes, Claude McKay, Zora Neale Hurston, and Richard Wright all lived in Harlem and started their careers there. Randy and Kurt wanted to tell the story of a group of friends all between the ages of 25–30 who represent the new Harlem renaissance and all live within the world's most famous neighborhood. The show explores the ups and downs of being in your mid-twenties in the chapter post college. Some of the issues they explore in the series include: career transition, love, life challenges, and community.

Harlem has gone through many changes. In the 1950s Harlem was predominately Black and was a thriving community. The pulse of American culture always began in Harlem through the musical and literature influences. Also Harlem is the home of some of our great political figures during the civil rights movement. There are so many historical landmarks in Harlem such as the Apollo Theater, Cotton Club, Grant's Tomb, and Abyssinian Baptist Church. Over the next two decades Harlem became a symbol of urban decay with crime and drugs that infested the community. In recent years, the Harlem community has emerged as a place of opportunity and resurgence. There's a climate of change and progression within Harlem that is symbolic and parallel to the lives of the cast of Harlem Heights. This show represents the new renaissance of young, talented and successful African-Americans that are emerging as leaders and trendsetters within the Harlem community.

So Madam Speaker, I ask that in this Black History Month, that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in celebrating the creation of such a remarkable and impressive series that all Americans can equally enjoy.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on member requests, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding requests I received as part of H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009.

I received six projects in H.R. 1105. They include:

\$416,000 shared by FL, CA, and TX for the Florida Shellfish Aquaculture Project located at PO Box 89, Cedar Key, FL 32625. This request, funded through the Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service, SRG account, will fund research needs for Florida's shellfish aquaculture industries. This project will address areas, such as genetics,